

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended to require that the cell system further comprise a flow control means. Support for the current Amendment to Claim 1 is found in the Specification on page 14, lines 22-29. No new matter has been presented in amended Claim 1. Claim 10 has been amended to provide antecedent support pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §112, ¶2. No new matter is presented in amended Claim 10. Claims 13-17 have been withdrawn from consideration pursuant to the Examiner's restriction requirement made final in the instant Office Action. Upon the indication of allowable subject matter, Applicants will respectfully request rejoinder of the withdrawn claims pursuant to M.P.E.P. §821.04. Claims 1-12 remain in this Application and are presented for the Examiner's reconsideration in light of the above Amendments and the following comments.

Drawings

The Examiner has indicated that the drawings are non-compliant with 37 C.F.R. §1.84(p)(5) because reference call-outs 10, 21, 12, 13, 23, and 25 are not presented.

Attached herein Applicants are providing annotated drawings indicating proposed changes in red to Figs. 2, 5b, and 6c for approval by the Examiner. It is believed that these amendments will obviate the objection to the drawings for call-out numbers 10, 21, and 13. Upon approval by the Examiner, new drawings in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.84, including the changes, will be filed. This procedure is consistent with M.P.E.P. §608.02(p).

With regard to the Examiner's objection under 37 C.F.R. §1.84(p)(4) for Applicants' use of the reference character 12, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner to page 7, lines 1-3 of the Specification, as originally filed. Here, Applicants state, "The article of this invention optionally but preferably features *a support dispersing material* designed to absorb the product upon release. This support material is designed to assist the user in the application of the product." (Emphasis added) Thus, as can be seen by Applicants' Specification, the reference character 12 is indeed used to designate the support material which can be embodied in a dispersing support, an absorbent support, a dispersing material, and an absorbent pad. In light of this discussion, Applicants respectfully request removal of the Examiner's objection.

With regard to the Examiner's objection under 37 C.F.R. §1.84(p)(4) for Applicants' use of the reference character 23, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to

page 9, lines 1-3 of the Specification, as originally filed. Applicants state, "Preferably the sachet also comprises an easy opening means, more preferably it comprises at least one peelable seal (23) which ruptures when the user applies sufficient pressure on the sachet (11)." Thus, in light of Applicants' Specification, the reference character 23 refers to a seal which is one embodiment of Applicants' easy opening means. Therefore, reference character 23 would designate a peelable seal, a weak seal, and/or a median weak seal. In light of this discussion, Applicants respectfully request removal of the Examiner's objection under 37 C.F.R. §1.84(p)(4).

With respect to the Examiner's objection under 37 C.F.R. §1.84(p)(5), because reference character 16 has been to designate both the cut-out portions and punched portion, Applicants are herein amending the Specification beginning on page 15, line 25, to replace the term "punched portion (16)" with the phrase "cut-out portion (16)." This Amendment provides consistency with Applicants' previous use of call-out 16. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request removal of the Examiner's objection under 37 C.F.R. §1.84(p)(4).

Abstract

The Examiner has suggested that Applicants submit another Abstract and/or a reviewed Abstract. By Amendment herein, Applicants are providing a revised Abstract, as requested by the Examiner. This Abstract should replace the Abstract published in document WO 00/56626, which represents the International Publication PCT/US00/06984.

Claim Objections

The Examiner has objected to Applicants' Claim 10 for recitation of the limitation "said cell's material." By Amendment herein, Applicants have amended Claim 10 to cure the objection. Applicants respectfully request removal of the Examiner's objection to Claim 10.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-3, 5-6, 8-9, and 11-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Cantwell, International Publication WO 97/04831. Claims 1-3, 5-7, and 12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Paley, et al., International Publication WO 96/28262. Further, Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Bailey, U.S. Patent No. 3,826,259. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. The Examiner is encouraged to consider the following comments with respect to the instant rejections:

1. Applicants' invention, as now presented in Claim 1 by Amendment, requires that

the cell system comprise, *inter alia*, at least one burstable cell comprising a flow control means. In other words, Applicants' claimed invention provides a controlled egress of active composition from the at least one burstable cell.

2. All of the references cited by the Examiner (i.e., Cantwell; Paley, et al.; and Bailey) fail to disclose a cell system having at least one burstable cell provided with a flow control means.

Due to these considerations, the *Cantwell*, *Paley*, and *Bailey* references fail to teach each and every element of Applicants' claimed invention. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the Examiner's 35 U.S.C. §102(b) rejection with respect to Applicants' Claim 1.

Because Claims 2-12 all depend directly or indirectly from Applicants' independent Claim 1, they contain all of its limitations. For this reason, Applicants submit that the arguments made above concerning the allowability of independent Claim 1 are equally applicable to the rejection of Claims 2-12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b). Applicants therefore respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of dependent Claims 2-12 over the Examiner's 35 U.S.C. §102(b) rejection.


Conclusion

Based on all the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that each of Applicants' remaining claims is in condition for allowance and favorable reconsideration is requested.

This response is timely filed pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.8 and M.P.E.P. §512. If any additional charges are due, the Examiner is authorized to deduct such charges from Deposit Account No. 16-2480 in the name of The Procter & Gamble Company.

Respectfully submitted,

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